



The Town Bugle

News & Views from the Town of Estes Park • Summer 2006 • Vol. 6 • No. 3

Town website launches new design

New structure uses innovative approach to meeting the needs and serving each type of user

Are you looking for information about upcoming events in Estes Park? Perhaps you are searching for parking or trail maps of the area? What about agendas or minutes from Town of Estes Park Board or committee meetings? Could it be that you're looking for information on business licenses, liquor licenses, or building permits?

The answers are just a click away! And now they're easier to obtain than ever before.

After a year of planning, study and hard work, representatives from various Town departments have launched the first significant structural change in the Town of Estes Park's website. The revised site, still at www.estesnet.com, went "live" during the July 4 holiday weekend.

The website has an updated look and feel, as well as three primary ways to use the site: as a resident, a business interest, or someone looking for

planning and zoning information.

The home page allows visitors to the site to choose the way they want to see the information. The data that is often more important to residents is prioritized through that view. In the same way, people entering the business side of the site find information relevant to businesses, like facts about licenses, permits, and sales tax.



The website's new look was introduced the first weekend in July. The updated design offers its users three different ways to look at the site; that of a resident, business person, or someone interested in planning, zoning or construction.

that are not provided by Town government.

Among the many links are connections to the Estes Park Public Library, Larimer County, and the Estes Valley Recreation & Park District.

Check out www.estesnet.com the next time you are looking for answers! See how much easier the new format is to work with.

The Town of Estes Park launched its original website, www.estesnet.com, in 1999. The site is maintained and updated on a regular basis by a team of employees representing each of the Town's departments. ■

Inside

Fall River Picnic Grounds now open to the public

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A visit to Bond Park's Log Cabin

"Where is the Post Office?" "Can you tell me about Rocky Mountain National Park?" Those are the kinds of questions visitors ask when they seek assistance at the Bond Park Information Cabin.

The prefabricated log structure was moved into its place in mid-June. Open Thursdays through Sunday from noon until 6 p.m. through Labor Day, an average of 135 people seek assistance each day. After Labor Day the cabin will remain in operation three days a week – Friday, Saturday and Sunday.



The O'Connor Picnic Grounds are located across the river from the Historic Fall River Hydroplant Museum.

Scenic picnic setting now open for public use

O'Connor Picnic Shelter offers a covered structure with concrete floor alongside Fall River

This is the first summer that the Town's picnic grounds located at 1754 Fish Hatchery Road are available for rental. Adjacent to the Historic Fall River Hydroplant, the picnic grounds are on the south side of Fall River, with the sheer rock face of Deer Mountain towering above. The site is set among pine trees, wildflowers and boulders and is quiet and located away from roadways.

The O'Connor Picnic Shelter is a covered pavilion with concrete flooring overlooking the tumbling waters of Fall River, and contains 14 new picnic tables. Two smaller shelters with electric service and non-potable water

The new picnic shelter is nestled in the woods near the banks of the Fall River. The setting is very picturesque and secluded, making it perfect for many types of get-togethers, family gatherings and other activities.



also are available. There is a stone fire pit approximately eight feet in diameter for wood fires or lessees may bring a gas grill (subject to fire restrictions of the season).

Currently, portable rest rooms have been placed at the site until construction of a permanent rest room facility is complete.

There is a separate gravel roadway leading from Fish Hatchery Road to the site for access and parking. In addition to the covered pavilion, there is an open grassy field at the site for family gatherings, games or walks. A sand volleyball court may also be reserved.

The Town of Estes Park manages the rental program of this picnic area through the Estes Park Senior Center. Rental guidelines, rates and reservations may be obtained by contacting Nancy Matson, program coordinator, at (970) 577-3769 or nmatson@estes.org. Individuals and groups may also contact Lori Mitchell, Senior Center director, at (970) 577-3765 or lmitchell@estes.org.

More information about the facility may be found on the Town's website at www.estesnet.com/seniorcenter. ■

The Town of Estes Park



Mayor
John Baudek

Town Trustees
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Mayor Pro Tem
Eric Blackhurst
Dorla Eisenlauer
Richard Homeier
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Town Vision

The Town of Estes Park will continue to be one of the premier mountain resort communities in the United States. This vision includes:

- Being a caring organization sensitive to the needs of our citizens, visitors, and employees.
- Having an employee team that takes pride in being recognized as a model of innovation and performance.
- Providing services which are responsive and reliable.

Town Mission

The mission of the Town of Estes Park is to plan and provide reliable, high-value services for our citizens, visitors, and employees. We take great pride ensuring and enhancing the quality of life in our community by being good stewards of public resources and our natural setting.

Contact Us

Address: P.O. Box 1200
Estes Park, CO 80517
Phone: 577-3800
Website: www.estesnet.com

Shuttle popularity well-established in its inaugural season

Free transit system offers both shoppers and hikers a convenient transportation option

Halfway through its inaugural season, it became apparent that residents and visitors are embracing the new Shopper Shuttle as an alternative mode of transportation to get around downtown Estes Park. On July 31 the 10,000th passenger boarded the Shopper Shuttle at the Estes Park Visitors Center as it prepared for a mid-day run to the core downtown business area.

The free ride transit system began operations on July 1 and will continue through Labor Day on a continuous loop that carries passengers on U.S. Hwy. 34-Elkhorn Avenue from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Individuals board shuttles at seven locations east of the Visitors Center, at delivery pull-offs on both sides of Elkhorn Avenue through the core downtown area and at Performance Park at 30-minute intervals.

Also popular is Rocky Mountain National Park's Hiker Shuttle that operates from a hub at the Estes Park Visitors Center to take passengers to the Park's Park & Ride lot on Bear Lake Road. Nearly 5,000 passengers



These shuttle buses have become a familiar sight this summer for tourists and residents alike.

have taken advantage of that route.

Although the official transit season ends Sept. 4, Shopper Shuttles will be transitioned to Longs Peak Scottish Irish Highland Festival operations the weekend after Labor Day. During the annual festival that draws more than 60,000 people, the shuttles will operate on a circle route from the Visitors Center to a transportation

pull-out at the Estes Park Town Hall before heading to the Estes Park Conference Center and Stanley Park, headquarters for the event.

Management from Rocky Mountain Transit Company, operators of the system, and Town officials will gather this fall to discuss operations for the 2007 summer season, the second of the three-year experimental project. ■

Here is a quick overview of the Town's raw water rights

Town Attorney White recently briefed Town Trustees on the Town's raw water rights.

He stated the Town has a sufficient supply of water with four distinct types of water rights, including: 500 acre ft. units annually from the Colorado-Big Thompson Project (CBT), 1,217 senior right units of CBT water, 300 units from the Windy Gap project, and three very junior water rights to Fall River, Glacier Creek, and Black Canyon Creek.

The Town has an augmentation plan that uses its junior water rights and replaces the water with Windy

Gap water.

The Windy Gap Project consists of a diversion dam on the Colorado River, a 445-acre-foot reservoir, a pumping plant, and a six-mile pipeline to Lake Granby. The Windy Gap Project can deliver an average of 48,000 acre feet of water annually. During the spring runoff, Fraser River water is pumped from Windy Gap Reservoir to Lake Granby, where it is stored for delivery through the Colorado-Big Thompson Project facilities to water users along the Front Range.

Estes Park has an average output of 90 percent from sewer treatment or 10/1



The Windy Gap Project is located just west of Granby on Colorado's west slope. The Town of Estes Park uses Windy Gap water in its annual augmentation plan.

usage of its water. Only half of the water rights are used each year and the remainder of the water is leased with Town Board approval. ■

Calendar of Community Events

August

- 18:** Then and Now: A Book Signing. Estes Park Museum. 5-7 p.m. 586-6256
19: Auto Extravaganza. Bond Park. 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 586-6104
19: It All Started at Camp Hale lecture. Estes Park Museum. 7 p.m.
20: EP Jazz Band. Performance Park. 3 p.m.
24-Sept. 30: Estes Park Plein Air exhibitions at four area galleries. Call Cultural Arts Council for info: 586-9203
26-27: Heritage Festival. Downtown in Bond Park. 577-1903

September

- 2-3:** Alpaca Show. Stanley Park Fairgrounds. 586-6104
2-4: Labor Day Craft Show. Downtown in Bond Park. 586-0900
7-10: Longs Peak Scottish Irish Highland Festival. Stanley Park.
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Parade downtown on Sept. 9th at 9:30 a.m.
16-17: Fine Arts & Fine Crafts Show. Bond Park 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
15-16: Estes Park Film Festival. Park Theatre. 586-2580
15-16: Team Penning Competition. Fairgrounds. 586-6104
16: Cheley Camp Tour. EP Museum. 586-6256

- 16:** Carousels to Cowboys: Riverside Dark Horse Dance. Barn W at the Stanley Park Fairgrounds. 7:30 p.m. 586-6256
16 & 23: Chamber Music Festival concerts. 7:30 p.m. 586-9203
23-24: Autumn Gold - A Festival of Brats 'n Bands. 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
30: EP Library Foundation Dinner. Conference Center. 6 p.m. 586-8116
30: Running of the Bulls 5K Run/Walk benefit for Partners. Beginning at 8 a.m. Lake Estes Marina. 577-9348
30-Oct. 1: Elk Fest. Downtown in Bond Park. 586-6104

October

- 6:** Elkhorn Avenue Exhibit Opening. Exhibit open through February. EP Museum. 586-6256
7-8: Surprise Sale, downtown. 577-9900
28: Sixth Annual Halloween Hullabaloo. Estes Park Museum. 11 a.m. 586-6256.
29: Rocky Mountain Romance Bridal & Fashion Show from the Wedding Assn. at the Conference Center. 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. 586-6151

Downtown Music Series

See the full schedule at www.EstesParkCVB.com
Riverside Rhythms in Riverside Plaza: Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 3 p.m. through Sept. 5
 Wednesday Nights: **Concerts at Performance Park** at 7 p.m. through Aug. 23
Thursday Night Live: Concerts at Performance Park at 7 p.m. through Aug. 24
Cowboy Sing-a-Long: Sundays & Mondays at 7 p.m. in Bond Park through August. 14
Barlow Plaza Series: Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. through Sept. 3

Committee and Town Board Meetings are held regularly in the Board Room at Town Hall. Citizens are encouraged to attend. Go to www.estesnet.com/TownClerk for dates and times. The Town Trustees and Mayor are available to speak at clubs and meetings. For more information, contact Town Clerk Jackie Williamson at 577-3702.

Check our complete listing of community events and more at www.estesnet.com



Take a Historical Moment

How did Bond Park in downtown Estes Park get its name?

Cornelius H. Bond came to Colorado in 1854 when he was 24 years old. He settled in Loveland and worked at area ranches, owned a dry goods store, and then entered politics. Between 1895 and 1901, Bond served as the sheriff of Larimer County, and later served two terms in the state legislature.

In 1902, Bond was living in Fort Collins and was appointed to a committee to examine the Bald Mountain stage road from Loveland to Estes Park. It was largely through his efforts and recommendations that a new road was built through the Big Thompson Canyon in

1904. In 1905, Bond loaded his family onto a buggy and settled permanently in Estes Park.

Together with three partners, Bond purchased a section of land owned by Englishman John Cleave, the area's first postman and a village resident for more than 30 years. The land centered around the junction



Cornelius H. Bond

of the Big Thompson and Fall Rivers.

The four partners founded the Estes Park Town Company, and planned to lay out a town around the area purchased from Cleave. As manager for the company, Bond kept busy selling real estate and dreaming up new ways to sell it (including the placement of a fake bighorn sheep on a prospective buyer's land, according to a 1908 article in the Rocky Mountain News). The center of that plot is now named Bond Park, in honor of C.H. Bond. ■



P.O. Box 1200
 Estes Park, Colorado 80517



Q: Where in Estes Park are these people?

- A:** a) Senior Center b) Estes Park Museum
 c) The Information Cabin in Bond Park
 d) Town Hall

See Page 1 for the answer!

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